(b) Government have no information with them on the subject.

The number of Village Parvatiakkarans, etc., in the State.

415. Mr Chakko Cheruvathur.—(a) Will the Government be pleased to state the total number of Village Parvatiakkarans, Menons and Revenue Inspectors in the State ;

(b) the total number among them of (1) Brahmins (2) Nayars (3) Ezhuvas (4) Christians and (5) Muhammadans ?

(c) How many applications there were from each caste men and how many from each caste were entertained during the last six years?

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—(a) The total number of Village Parvatiakkarans, Menons and Revenue Inspectors in the State is 161, 196, and 21 respectively.

(b) A statement giving the information asked for is appended. (*Vide Appendix VI.*)

(c) It is not possible to furnish the statistics asked for without examining the files of the last six years.

The complaint regarding the location of the Ottupara tollgate.

416. Mr. Chakko Cheruvathur.—Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has received any complaint regarding the location of the Ottupara tollgate in the midst of the Ottupara bazaar near Vadakkancheri ?

(b) If so, when were the complaints received, and how were they disposed of, and what were the reasons for so disposing of those petitions?

(c) Did the Vadakkancheri Panchayat make any requisition to the Government for the removal of the tollgate from its present site? Will the Government be pleased to place upon the table the papers connected with that requisition, the proceedings taken by the Government thereon and the decision of the Government ?

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—(a) & (b) Yes. There was a petition received by the Government in 1097 complaining against the location of the tollgate at Ottupara.

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In Medam 1097, Government could not grant the petitioner's request to shift the tollgate, as the suggestion in the petition to split the tollgate into three and locate them one each on the Ottupara-Kunnamkulam road, on the Ottupara-Shoranur road and the Ottupara-Trichur road would, if given effect to, entail more hardship to the people than the present tollgate is represented to.

(c) Yes. The Secretariat files Dis. Nos. 58/D/00 and 1629/D/00 on the subject are placed on the Council Secretary's table for perusal.

Mr. Chakko Cheruvathur.—Has the Government subsequently realised the difficulties of the inhabitants regarding the location of the Ottupara tollgate in the midst of the Ottupara bazaar and come to any favourable conclusion ?

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—The original order stands. There has been no change.

Mr. Chakko Cheruvathur - I do not know how the shifting of the tollgate will entail hardship upon the people, as the retention of the same is more harmful.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—Suppose we have a tollgate a little to the south of the Vadakkancheri Railway Station. A lot of people will have to go to the Railway Station, and their carts also will have to come. Similarly, if we have a tollgate to the north of the Ottupara market, carts coming from the north will have to pay a toll there also. Thus, if the tollgate is shifted, as suggested in the petition, it will cause more hardship.

Mr. Chakko Cheruvathur.—So the Government consider that the traffic within the town is less than the traffic outside. The people coming from Parlikkad will experience some hardship. That is all. I think that the traffic inside the town is greater.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—That is a hypothetical question. No fresh representation has been made for shifting the gate. If a fresh representation is made, Government will reconsider the whole question, even at a small sacrifice of revenue.

President.—The contract is given for 1101. Vadakkancheri is not a Municipality, and Government may be a loser. Supposing you ask for a different tollgate in a different place, it will tax to a greater extent the people who have to pass through these roads. People from Vadakkancheri going to the hospital

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and other places have to pay toll. That seems to be the complaint, which could not be avoided, even if the tollgate is shifted. Thus it can be seen that the location of the toll gate at the spot at which it is now located does not create any hardship.

Lands washed away by the sea erosion.

417. **Mr. George Chakyamuri.**—Will the Government be pleased to place on the table a statement showing the following.—

(a) the amount (extent) of land washed away by the encroachment of the sea for the last ten years in the villages of the Cochin State lying to the south of Cochin;

(b) the amount of money spent by the Government for protecting these villages from the erosion of the sea;

(c) the number of petitions and representations the Government has received from the inhabitants of these villages regarding this matter;

(d) the reply or replies, if any, which the Government has given to these petitions and representations?

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—(a) The extent of land washed away to the south of Cochin is.—

Rameswaram village	14·18	acres.	....
Pallivirutti	,, 58·14	,,	....
Kumbalangi	,, 67·46	,,	....
Chellanam	,, 25·75	,,	...

(b) No money has been spent by the Government for the purpose. For the reasons the member is referred to the Press Communique, dated 26th May 1921 and published in the Cochin Government Gazette, dated 15th Edavam 1096.

(c) A few petitions were received. Government are not now in a position to give the exact number.

(d) The member is referred to the Press Communique of 26th May 1921, adverted to above. An offer has been made to the petitioners who have lost their lands by erosions to take on assignment equal areas out of the eastern Andikadavu backwaters.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—Answer sub-division (b). May I know the main features so that I may understand?

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Renga Ayyarr.—I shall let you have a copy of the Press Communique. I cannot speak from

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